

The Historic Cambridge Collaborative
presents

CAMBRIDGE DISCOVERY DAYS



TOURS & EVENTS

Two Saturdays

July 1st and July 8th, 2006

FREE! RAIN OR SHINE!



Events begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue throughout the day.

Questions?

Call the Commission at 617 349 4683

HISTORIC CAMBRIDGE COLLABORATIVE
Cambridge Arts Council
Cambridge Historical Commission
Cambridge Historical Society
Cambridge Office for Tourism
Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery
Longfellow National Historic Site

Tours and events marked with an asterisk [*] are offered both Saturdays.

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2006

9:00–10:30 a.m.

Tales of Olde Cambridge

Your guide, actor Timothy Sawyer, will conjure the village of Olde Cambridge (now Harvard Square) in the days of Puritans and revolutionaries and tell true tales of witches, patriots, traitors, spies, murderers, heroes, heretics, and (gasp) liberals.

Guide: Timothy Sawyer, Sawyer Mac Productions

Meet outside the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square, under the flags

More information: 617 354 3344 or [www. livelylore.com](http://www.livelylore.com)

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Discovering History through a Child's Eyes: An Interactive Program for Children and Adults

Children entering grades 4 through 5 and their families are invited to tour the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House and grounds and participate in a special art activity related to the building's architecture, gardens, or their favorite artifacts. The children's art projects will be displayed throughout the summer in a special exhibit at the Society.

Guide: Sally Hild, Program Director, Cambridge Historical Society

At the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, 159 Brattle Street

More information: 617 547 4252 or sally@cambridgehistory.org

10:00-11:30 a.m.

**The Cambridge of James Russell Lowell*

James Russell Lowell (1819-1891) was the first editor of the Atlantic Monthly, as well as a poet, essayist, educator, humorist, and critic. During his several years abroad as a scholar and diplomat, he never stopped yearning for his hometown: "I like Cambridge better than any other spot on the earth's surface." Learn about Lowell's life and times as we walk the well-worn path from his friend Longfellow's house to Elmwood, the Lowell family's home.

Guide: Aurore Eaton, New England historian

Meet on the front lawn at Longfellow National Historic Site, 105 Brattle Street

More information: histtours@aol.com

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Play Ball! 19th Century Vintage Base Ball:

The Essex Base Ball Club vs. The Providence Game Hens

Base ball was once a simpler game, played by gentlemen on green fields for pure recreation. Balls were caught with bare hands, and good play was applauded from both sides. The Essex Base Ball Club and the Providence Game Hens will present an exciting depiction of the customs, styles, and etiquette of base ball's formative years. Two games will be played—one following 1861 rules, the other 1886 rules.

Played at St. Peter's Field, Garden Street near Walden and Sherman streets

More information: Brian Sheehy 978 790 5707 or historyball@yahoo.com or

www.essexbaseball.org

10:30, 11:30 a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00 p.m.

**Tours of the Longfellow National Historic Site*

Step into America's past on a tour of the Longfellow house. For almost half a century (1837-1882) this was the home of the renowned poet, scholar, and educator, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and a favorite gathering place for prominent philosophers and artists, including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Julia Ward Howe, James Russell Lowell, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. General George Washington, Commander-in-Chief of the newly formed Continental Army, used the house as his headquarters in the winter of 1775-1776. He, too, entertained many notable visitors, including Benjamin Franklin and Benedict Arnold. Readings from poems, letters, and diaries enliven the tours.

Led by National Park Service Rangers

At Longfellow National Historic Site, 105 Brattle Street

More information: 617 876 4491

Admission charge

11:00 a.m.-Noon

Harvard, Cambridge & the American Revolution

Explore the intertwined histories of Cambridge and Harvard College from their founding in the seventeenth century through the time of the Revolution. The tour will visit the original village market place, Revolutionary War sites on Brattle Street, and Cambridge Common and the site of the original "Washington Elm."

Led by Regis De Silva, Cambridge resident and Harvard faculty

Meet at the Kennedy School of Government main gate, off Bennett Street

More information: rdesilva@bidmc.harvard.edu

ADVANCE REGISTRATION BY E-MAIL IS REQUIRED

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

*“Have you milked the cow today?”—18th century *Activities for Children*

Have you milked the cow? Chopped the wood? Gathered the eggs? With Mistress Elizabeth, you’ll learn to write your name with a quill pen, card and spin wool, sing a song, and do a country dance—THAT will explain why your chores aren’t done! Materials will be provided. **Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

Guide: Mistress Elizabeth (Donna LaRue),

All activities take place on the sidewalk in front of First Parish Church, corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Church Street

More information: 781 646 3013 or ihsdlrue@bu.edu

1:00-2:00 p.m.

The British Loyalists of Brattle Street

On the eve of the American Revolution, Cambridge was home to about 800 people. Most were farmers, artisans, or tradespeople who relied on local resources for their livelihoods. Many would fight for independence from British rule. A much smaller group of wealthy families, many related by blood and marriage, occupied sizable estates along today’s Brattle Street and Elmwood Avenue, where they lived apart from the mainstream of town affairs. Labeled Tories or loyalists, they would support the Crown. A contemporary observer wrote: “Seven families had here farms, gardens, and magnificent houses Never had I chanced on such an agreeable situation.” The walk will visit the homes (outside only!) of six Loyalists, stopping at each one to tell that family’s story.

Guide: Ted Hansen, Cambridge Historical Society

Meet outside the front gate, Longfellow National Historic Site, 105 Brattle Street

More information: tedhansen1@aol.com

1:00-2:15 p.m.

**The Old Cambridge Burying Ground: Scholars, Soldiers & Stones*

The tour will look at the work of early colonial carvers; discuss the stones and the information they tell about important figures in the Cambridge community; and study how the town’s public and private educational and governmental institutions functioned in the years just prior to the American Revolution.

Mistress Elizabeth, an 18th century living history character from Charlestown-Beyond-the-Neck, is the widow of Captain Elias de la Rue and a sometime schoolteacher. She lives in the summer of the year 1773, just six months before the Boston Tea Party and three years before the events at Lexington and Concord.

Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. No touching or rubbing of stones is permitted in the grounds; photography and drawing are fine! Handouts included.

Guide: Mistress Elizabeth (Donna La Rue, church historian)

Meet at the Old Burying Ground at the side gate near the front entrance to Christ Church, Zero Garden Street

More information: 781 646 3013 or ihsdlrue@bu.edu

2:00-3:30 p.m.

Mount Auburn Cemetery: A National Historic Landmark

Mount Auburn is one of the country's most significant designed landscapes. Here the arts of horticulture, architecture, and sculpture combine with the beauty of nature to create a place of comfort and inspiration. This 1.5-mile walking tour will focus on stories of history, monuments, and the lives of those buried here.

Guide: Bree Harvey, Director of Public Programs, Mount Auburn Cemetery

Meet at Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street

More information: 617 607 1981 or friends@moutauburn.org

2:00-3:30 p.m.

Architecture of MIT

The MIT campus hosts the work of several remarkable 20th century architects—and recently completed an unprecedented building program that transformed the built environment. The tour begins with an overview of the campus. We will then view the work of Eero Saarinen, Eduardo Catalano, and Alvar Aalto. From post-war modernism, we will move back in time to consider MIT's beginnings in the 1860s in Boston's Back Bay and the big move to Cambridge in 1916. We will discuss William Welles Bosworth's Beaux Art design, which was inspired by Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia, and explore the extraordinary contributions I. M. Pei made throughout his career to MIT's architecture. We will also look at some of the school's newest additions, including the Stata Center designed by Frank O. Gehry.

Guide: Jennifer Hance, local historian and MIT alum

Meet at MIT on the steps in front of 77 Massachusetts Avenue

More information: 617 492 6463 or jhance@alum.mit.edu

2:45-4:15 p.m.

**Harvard Square's Colonial Churches: Agents of Change*

Diversity of religious and political affiliations have been issues in Cambridge since Harvard's first president became a Baptist and was asked to resign. Visit historic church sites; discuss how issues between Cambridge and Boston clergy foreshadowed and influenced events leading up to the Revolution; and discover how lay and clergy alike were schooled to their professions and added to the town's already complex texture. Sing a tune from the Bay Psalm Book at the site where it was published and join in a rousing political song or two at the Blue Anchor Tavern site. Handouts included.

Mistress Elizabeth, an 18th century living history character from Charlestown-Beyond-the-Neck, is the widow of Captain Elias de la Rue and a sometime schoolteacher. Mistress Elizabeth lives in the summer of the year 1773, just six months before the Boston Tea Party and three years before events at Lexington and Concord.

Guide: Mistress Elizabeth (Donna La Rue, church historian)

Meet at Out Of Town News/Cambridge Discovery Kiosk

More information: 781 646 3013 or ihsdlrue@bu.edu

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2006

9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Footprints on the Sands of Time*

Explore the Cambridge sites that the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow knew and loved, and which inspired many of his poems.

Guide: Paul Blandford, National Park Service

Meet at the front gate of the Longfellow National Historic Site, 105 Brattle Street

More information: 617 876 4491

10:00-11:00 a.m.

The Oldest House on Brattle Street: A Guided Tour of the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House

The Hooper-Lee-Nichols House is a fine example of a high-end dwelling that evolved over four centuries from a 17th century farmhouse to a Colonial Revival mansion. As you explore and examine the house and its objects and paintings, you will learn about three of the residents and better understand the history of Cambridge itself.

Guide: Lewis Bushnell, Associate Director, Cambridge Historical Society

At the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, 159 Brattle Street

More information: 617 547 4252 or lbushnell@cambridgehistory.org

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Rediscovering Childhood through Children's Literature: A Special Walking Tour of Mount Auburn Cemetery

A new concept of childhood emerged in the 19th century and fueled the children's book industry. Come hear the stories of authors and publishers of 19th and 20th century children's literature. We will be walking on paved roads and grassy paths through Mount Auburn's hills and dells. This walk is stroller-friendly.

Guide: Jill Graboski, Children's Librarian, Cambridge Public Library

Meet at Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street

More information: 617 607 1981 or friends@mountauburn.org

10:00-11:30 a.m.

**The Cambridge of James Russell Lowell*

James Russell Lowell (1819-1891) was the first editor of the Atlantic Monthly, as well as a poet, essayist, educator, humorist, and critic. During his several years abroad as a scholar and diplomat, he never stopped yearning for his hometown: "I like Cambridge better than any other spot on the earth's surface." Learn about Lowell's life and times as we walk the well-worn path from his friend Longfellow's house to Elmwood, the Lowell family's home.

Guide: Aurore Eaton, New England historian

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10:30-11:15 a.m.

Public Art ACTS: A Dialogue with Cambridge Public Art (street theatre)

On the new Shapiro Plaza (at the Porter Square Shopping Center) dancers, actors, and a juggler will respond playfully to the unusual new shapes and spaces created by the fresh landscape design. Follow the artists on a brief stroll to the Davenport Street mural—behind the shopping center—for an interactive performance inspired by the artwork and the history of the neighborhood. If you like, after the performance, chat with the artists at Café Zing inside Porter Square Books!

Performance by the Underground Railway Theatre

Meet in front of CVS in the Porter Square Shopping Center

More information: Lillian at the Cambridge Arts Council, 617 349 4389

10:30, 11:30 a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00 p.m.

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Led by National Park Service Rangers

At Longfellow National Historic Site, 105 Brattle Street

More information: 617 876 4491

Admission charge

11:00 a.m.–Noon

What Style is It? –A Slide Lecture

Using examples of Cambridge houses, Karen Davis will trace the evolving architectural styles from Colonial to Modernism, concentrating on the plethora of 19th century styles that dominate the Cambridge streetscape.

Guide: Karen Davis, Executive Director, Cambridge Historical Society

Meet at the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, 159 Brattle Street

More information: 617 547 4252 or kdavis@cambridgehistory.org

11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

**The Old Cambridge Burying Ground: Scholars, Soldiers & Stones*

The tour will look at the work of early colonial carvers; discuss the stones and the information they tell about important figures in the Cambridge community; and study how the town's public and private educational and governmental institutions functioned in the years just prior to the American Revolution.

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Guide: Mistress Elizabeth (Donna La Rue, church historian)

Meet at the Old Burying Ground at the side gate near the front entrance to Christ Church, Zero Garden Street

More information: 781 646 3013 or ihsdlrue@bu.edu

1:00-2:00 p.m.

The Literary Spirit: Scholars and Writers in Pleasant Environs

Stroll through one of Cambridge's most beautiful neighborhoods and meet the spirits of important cultural and literary individuals, including lawyer and author Richard Henry Dana (*Two Years Before the Mast*), the artist Charles Hopkinson, and editor and novelist William Dean Howells (*The Rise of Silas Lapham*).

Guide: Kit Rawlins, Cambridge Historical Commission

Meet on the front lawn of the Longfellow House, 105 Brattle Street

More information: 617 349 4685 or krawlins@cambridgema.gov

1:00-2:00 p.m.

The Women of Central Square

The tour will focus on women's contributions to Cambridge. Learn about the lives and struggles of women politicians and feminists, visit the country's oldest Women's Center, and listen to the stories of Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Maria Baldwin, and other important women and women's institutions.

Guide: Mary Leno, Cambridge Women's Commission

Meet on the sidewalk in front of City Hall

More information: 617 349 4697

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Tip O'Neill's North Cambridge

Explore the history and architecture of this North Cambridge neighborhood, from the first day of the American Revolution through the 20th century. The tour will discuss the neighborhood's agricultural and early industrial origins and its development as a streetcar suburb. Massachusetts Avenue and adjacent side streets will be featured, including several sites associated with the late Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Guide: Charlie Bahne, Cambridge historian

Meet at St. James's Church, corner Massachusetts Avenue and Beech Street

More information: 617 354 0539 or bahne02138@aol.com

1:15-2:15 p.m.

**"Have you milked the cow today?"—18th century Activities for Children*

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More information: 781 306 0724 or ihsdlrue@bu.edu

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Meet at Out Of Town News/Cambridge Discovery Kiosk

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HISTORIC CAMBRIDGE COLLABORATIVE

Created in 1998, the Historic Cambridge Collaborative is a group of nonprofit historical and educational Cambridge institutions working together to develop public programs that celebrate Cambridge history.

CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL

617 349 4380

www.cambridgema.gov/cac

CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

617 349 4683

www.cambridgema.gov/historic

CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

617 547 4252

www.cambridgehistory.org

CAMBRIDGE OFFICE FOR TOURISM

617 441 2884

www.cambridge-usa.org

FRIENDS OF MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY

617 547 7105

www.mountauburn.org

LONGFELLOW NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

617 876 4491

www.nps.gov/long



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